

Candidate Statements

★ Governor ★

- As the state's chief executive officer, oversees most state departments and agencies, and appoints judges.
 - Proposes new laws, approves or vetoes legislation, and submits the annual state budget to the Legislature.
 - Mobilizes and directs state resources during emergencies.
-

No statements were submitted by the candidates running for the office of Governor.

★ Lieutenant Governor ★

- Assumes the office and duties of Governor in the case of impeachment, death, resignation, removal from office, or absence from the state.
 - Serves as president of the State Senate and has a tie-breaking vote.
 - Chairs the Economic Development Commission, is a member of the State Lands Commission, and sits on the boards of the California university systems.
-

No statements were submitted by the candidates running for the office of Lieutenant Governor.

Candidate Statements

★ Secretary of State ★

- As the state's chief elections officer, oversees statewide elections and provides public access to campaign and lobbying financial information.
 - Maintains certain business filings, authenticates trademarks, regulates notaries public, and enables secured creditors to protect their financial interests.
 - Preserves California's history by acquiring, safeguarding, and sharing the state's historical treasures.
-

Pete Peterson
Republican

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I am running for Secretary of State because I know firsthand the office should be doing so much more to lead the fight in making California's government more transparent, less corrupt, and more accountable to voters and small businesses. *Experienced leader:* As the Executive Director of the non-partisan Davenport Institute for Public Engagement at Pepperdine University, I have travelled across this state training and consulting with local governments, making them more transparent and responsive to the public. *End the corrupt cycle:* Sacramento has become a merry-go-round for career politicians who use their power to move up the political ladder instead of helping Californians. I am not a politician, and my résumé uniquely prepares me to reform this particular office. I will bring my background in civic engagement and private sector experience to Sacramento to increase informed participation, while protecting the integrity of our ballot box. *Get jobs and businesses back:* California has lost more jobs than any other state since the beginning of the recession. It's one of the toughest states to start or grow a small business. As a former small business owner with technology experience, I will enable online business registration and filings, and fight to reduce the outrageous Business Franchise Tax. Government works when it's accountable to its citizens. I humbly ask for your vote so I can deliver this change.

Alex Padilla
Democratic

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Alex Padilla knows how to *reach across party lines* to get things done, working with both parties to *pass 80 laws* from improving education to protecting patients. He *championed renewable energy*, so by 2020, one-third of California's electricity will come from renewables. *Firefighters, police officers and nurses support Padilla* because he's dedicated to keeping all our communities safe, passing a law to prohibit felons from buying body armor. As Secretary of State, Alex Padilla will be just as effective. *He'll help businesses create jobs.* Businesses have waited months for approval from the Secretary of State to begin operations. Padilla will ensure new businesses can file online and begin operating within 5 business days. He'll *modernize voting* so we can vote when and where it's convenient. Padilla will *inspire young people*, visiting high schools to encourage 18-year-olds to register and vote. Padilla supports *weekly reporting of campaign contributions*, so voters know who is funding campaigns. Padilla will *audit the Secretary of State's office* to ensure taxpayer money is being spent wisely, efficiently, and getting results. He'll work to *restore the Voting Rights Act* so every citizen can vote without intimidation. Padilla's parents were immigrants. His father worked as a cook and his mother cleaned houses, and they taught him that anything is possible. Alex earned a scholarship to the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, graduating with an engineering degree. Alex Padilla knows government doesn't have all the answers, and that's why he's visiting with voters in every California county.

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Candidate Statements

★ Controller ★

- As the state's chief fiscal officer, serves as the state's accountant and bookkeeper of all public funds.
 - Administers the state payroll system and unclaimed property laws, and conducts audits and reviews of state operations.
 - Serves on the Board of Equalization, the Board of Control, and other boards and commissions.
-

Betty T. Yee
Democratic

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California needs a Controller who has extensive finance experience, is tough yet fair, and serves with the highest degree of transparency and accountability. A recognized expert in state budgets and fiscal policy, Betty Yee has deep knowledge of tax policy, bond oversight, cash management, and financial audits of state programs. Betty Yee will bring tough-minded fiscal discipline to the office of Controller, California's independent watchdog over misspending and waste of public funds. As a Board of Equalization Member, Betty Yee safeguarded our tax dollars, called out wasteful spending, and cracked down on the underground economy where unscrupulous businesses harm law-abiding taxpayers. Betty Yee's proven record of fairness includes making online retailers pay taxes on sales in California just like local merchants do; providing tax equity for same-sex couples; and updating tax rules to promote good jobs in a green economy. Betty Yee increased transparency and accountability at the Board, making it more responsive to individual taxpayers, businesses, and constituents, and increasing public access to non-confidential tax information. Extraordinarily well qualified, Betty Yee holds a Master's Degree in Public Administration and served as Chief Deputy Director for Budget in the California Department of Finance. Betty Yee is proudly endorsed by California's classroom teachers, nurses, the Sierra Club, and the California National Organization for Women (NOW). Betty Yee will be a Controller who fights for California's families. California needs Betty Yee to serve as its next Controller. For more information: www.bettyyee.com.

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Candidate Statements

★ Treasurer ★

- As the state's banker, manages the state's investments, and administers the sale of state bonds and notes.
 - Serves on several commissions, most of which are related to the marketing of bonds.
 - Pays out state funds when spent by the Controller and other state agencies.
-

Greg Conlon
Republican

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As a businessman, CPA and veteran pilot of the United States Air Force, I will be the independent fiscal watchdog our state needs to manage its finances. Californians deserve better from their Sacramento government, a place desperately in need of fresh faces and bold ideas. In fact, just a few months ago a scathing audit of the State Controller's office revealed a shocking \$31 billion in errors, mistakes and miscalculations; a total greater than the combined GDB of Iceland and Jamaica. Accounting errors and lack of oversight could cost taxpayers severely, but with this election we have a chance to fight back. If elected State Treasurer, I'll fight to keep money, jobs and hard working families here in California, and finally get our fiscal house in order. I have extensive financial experience in both the public and private sectors, working as a Senior Partner in a Big 5 Accounting Firm, and serving as President of the California Public Utilities Commission, Commissioner on the California Transportation Commission and Chairman of the Finance Committee of the City of Atherton. My priorities include proposing and advocating for pro-growth tax policies to help attract individuals, families and businesses back to California after years of losing them to states with more favorable tax laws, improving California's credit rating which is now the second to last in the nation, and reducing the state's unfunded pension liabilities. Please join my fight for fiscal sanity and an improved economy by voting Greg Conlon for State Treasurer. www.gregconlon.com

John Chiang
Democratic

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State Controller John Chiang has been California's independent watchdog safeguarding our tax dollars. As our next State Treasurer, John Chiang will continue his work to make government spending more transparent and accountable. John Chiang has saved state taxpayers billions of dollars by weeding out waste, fraud and abuse. John Chiang used his auditing authority to identify more than \$8 billion in taxpayer dollars that were being wasted or mismanaged. After the scandals in the City of Bell, John Chiang placed salaries online, to help residents identify abuses. John Chiang has returned \$3 billion in cash and more than 235 million shares of stock to millions of residents owed money by banks and corporations. John Chiang initiated audits on 40 life insurance companies, and is leading the charge to end the industry-wide practice of failing to pay death benefits to policy holders and beneficiaries. His settlement with 18 insurance companies requires that they return \$267 million in unpaid benefits to Californians and \$2.4 billion nationwide. John Chiang is a leader on pension and ethics reform. He rooted out pension spiking and is working to solve the state's looming crisis with unfunded medical expenses for state retirees. John Chiang's office provides free tax assistance to seniors and working families, saving them millions in tax refunds and credits. He hosts free seminars to help small businesses and non-profits navigate complex tax regulations. John Chiang has been our champion in state government. Keep John Chiang fighting for us, as California's next State Treasurer. <http://www.electjohnchiang.com>

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Candidate Statements

★ Attorney General ★

- As the state's chief law officer, ensures that state laws are enforced and investigates fraudulent or illegal activities.
 - Heads the Department of Justice, which provides state government legal services and represents the state in civil and criminal court cases.
 - Oversees law enforcement agencies, including county district attorneys and sheriffs.
-

Ron Gold
Republican

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Join with your friends and neighbors to vote for Ron Gold for California Attorney General. Former Deputy Attorney General Ron Gold knows how to fight crime and corruption. California needs Republicans like Ron to guard against the corruption that comes with one party holding super-majorities in the Legislature and all the statewide offices. The Attorney General's office should do something for you. Ron will prosecute vigorously those sleazy nursing homes and dishonest care givers who abuse our elderly. Under Ron's California Consumer Protection Agency, those companies colluding on gas prices will be prosecuted. He'll fight for Californians to have honest products from honest companies. To ensure your privacy, Ron will enforce laws on unwanted telephone calls and spam while restricting the government from vacuuming up your emails and phone calls. Ron will toughen the laws on those who commit identity theft. Our undocumented immigrants, who have worked long and hard in our state, deserve the right to live without fear and have a chance to find a pathway to citizenship. But, we must maintain secure borders. Married for forty years, with two grown sons and a graduate from UCLA, Ron is committed to making California a better place to live and work. It's time for Californians to demand that the office of Attorney General not simply be a stepping stone to the governorship but a place where dedication and service should rule for the benefit of all Californians. Vote for a new kind of Republican. Vote for Ron Gold.

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Candidate Statements

★ Insurance Commissioner ★

- Heads the Department of Insurance, which enforces California insurance laws and adopts regulations to implement the laws.
 - Licenses, regulates, and examines insurance companies.
 - Answers public questions and complaints about the insurance industry.
-

Ted Gaines
Republican

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www.tedgaines.com

The Department of Insurance is broken. Failed leadership is driving businesses out of California and leaving consumers with higher costs and fewer choices. Instead of working to create more jobs, they only want to expand their own political power—with all of us paying the price. *As an independent insurance agent, I've been the ultimate consumer advocate for more than 30 years.* As Insurance Commissioner, I'll protect consumers and create a stronger jobs climate. We can do better. I respectfully ask for your vote. For more information, please visit www.tedgaines.com.

Dave Jones
Democratic

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Four years ago, Californians elected Dave Jones as Insurance Commissioner to fight for consumers and hold insurance companies accountable. *Dave Jones has saved consumers \$1.67 billion by rejecting excessive auto and homeowners insurance rates.* We need an Insurance Commissioner with the courage, integrity, and independence to fight to protect consumers. We need Dave Jones. *Dave Jones refuses to accept contributions or gifts from insurance companies.* He worked to provide health insurance to millions of uninsured Californians. He issued regulations to stop health insurers from discriminating against people with pre-existing conditions. He required health insurers to cover autistic children. Jones is leading the fight to require health insurers to justify their rates and reject excessive health insurance premium increases. When life insurance companies failed to pay beneficiaries, Jones led a national investigation and recovered hundreds of millions. Californians pay more when fraudsters scam insurance companies. Since Jones took office, this department has made over 2,450 arrests for fraud. Jones enacted regulations to protect seniors from scams. And he has investigated and helped prosecute criminals who prey on elders. Jones insists that insurers buy goods and services from California's diverse businesses and disabled veterans. Insurers must also now consider climate change impacts, thanks to Dave Jones. Jones has helped over 260,000 consumers with complaints about their insurance companies. He recovered \$207 million for consumers. *The Consumer Federation of California named Dave Jones a "Consumer Champion."* Insurance Commissioner Dave Jones fights for us. Vote for Dave Jones for Insurance Commissioner. Visit www.davejones2014.com.

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Candidate Statements

★ Board of Equalization ★

Serves on the Board of Equalization, the state's elected tax commission, which:

- Oversees the administration of many tax and fee programs including those for sales, fuels, alcohol, cigarettes and tobacco.
 - Serves as the appellate body for California income tax and franchise tax cases.
 - Oversees the administration of property tax.
-

District 1

George Runner
Republican

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As your elected taxpayer advocate, I am working each and every day to protect the interests of you, the taxpayer. From defending Proposition 13 to fighting against tax increases on California families and businesses, I've stood firm against the special interests who want to take more of your money. That's why tax fighters like the *Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association* and the *National Federation of Independent Business* support my re-election. We ended the government's requirement for a security deposit from new businesses, returning millions of dollars back to their rightful owners instead of tied up in a government account. We're also looking out for human rights by fighting the underground economy that undercuts legitimate business and promotes human trafficking. We're fighting the unfair and illegal "Fire Fee" tax targeting rural homeowners and senior citizens across California and when we win in court we'll return millions of dollars back to taxpayers. While in the Legislature, my accomplishments include Jessica's Law, which created the toughest sexual predator laws in the nation. I also authored California's Amber Alert, which has aided in more than 200 reunions of abducted children with their parents. Public safety is government's first duty to the public and I'm honored to have the endorsement of the California Association of Highway Patrolmen, the California State Sheriffs' Association and the CDF Firefighters. I would be honored to earn your support. Visit www.georgerunner.com to learn more about my mission to protect taxpayer rights and make California government more responsive and accountable to you.

Chris Parker
Democratic

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Californians need a fiscal watchdog on the Board of Equalization who will fight for accountability, protect our tax dollars, stand up to special interests, and fight tax cheats who game the system at the expense of working families. As a consumer advocate and tax professional, I fight for taxpayers and hold tax cheats accountable. I have settled over \$300 million in tax disputes for individuals, small businesses, and families quickly and efficiently, ensuring hard working taxpayers are treated fairly and corporations pay their share. As an educator, I teach business and employment law to aspiring entrepreneurs. I understand small businesses are the backbone of our economy and communities. On the Board of Equalization, I will make helping small businesses grow my top priority including cutting red tape and reducing filing costs. I will fight to level the playing field for working Californians. As a consumer advocate, I helped create a financial coaching program as a volunteer with United Way giving people the tools to achieve greater financial stability and elevate their station. I have dedicated my life to fighting for consumers and working families. As your Board Member, I will be a strong voice advocating for working families and small business owners—not powerful special interests. I will work to improve transparency, hold tax cheats accountable, and give small businesses tools to succeed. I will also work to phaseout the Fire Fee. Please join Doctors, Teachers, Nurses, and Small Business Owners in supporting my campaign for Board of Equalization.

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Candidate Statements

★ Board of Equalization ★

Continued

District 2

Fiona Ma
Democratic

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Each year, California fails to collect eight billion dollars from the underground economy. This lack of revenue hurts hard-working Californians by shortchanging vital public service programs and hindering our economic recovery. As your Board of Equalization Member, I will put to use my 20 years of auditing and tax experience including my service as an Assessment Appeals Board Commissioner, Member of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors and California State Assemblymember to knock out tax fraud and the under-reporting of taxes that cost California billions. I have authored many tax-related bills to help businesses prosper and keep California competitive with other states. I earned a B.S. in Accounting, Master's Degree in Taxation, along with an MBA, and have been licensed in California as a Certified Public Accountant (CPA) since 1992 where I worked for a large public accounting firm and then started my own small accounting practice. My goal as your State Board of Equalization representative is to ensure that our Golden State has a just and efficient tax collection system in which everyone is treated fairly and equally. I would be honored to have your vote on November 4, 2014. Thank you.

James "Jim" Theis
Republican

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I was raised on a ranch in Montana, served honorably in the US Navy, and worked in law enforcement as a Deputy Sheriff. Currently, my wife and family live on an organic farm in rural San Benito County. I drive a pickup truck to work each day, and our children attend local public schools. We are just like most Americans that work hard, live clean and pay their taxes. *I am not a professional politician, and have never run for political office.* If elected, I promise to listen to your concerns and provide fair & equal treatment for all taxpayers. Please let me help you. I would appreciate your vote. Thank you.

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District 3

G. Rick Marshall
Republican

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G. Rick Marshall is a strong supporter of Proposition 13, a recognized taxpayer advocate and is endorsed by the Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association. *G. Rick Marshall* knows the impact of taxes on family budgets having worked almost a decade for CCH Computax, a leader in the tax preparation software. *G. Rick Marshall* will fairly administrate tax law without favoritism, deliver efficient government services, eliminate wasteful spending, penalize tax cheats—not honest mistakes—and return tax surpluses to taxpayers. *G. Rick Marshall* will vote to repeal unfriendly policies like charging sales tax on the full retail cost of cell phones, regardless of the price charged the buyer. He will protect consumers by voting to reduce the excise tax on gasoline to offset expected price increases when the cap and trade mandate is imposed on refiners. *G. Rick Marshall* will not accept the new 2% pay raise while California's economy is recovering and temporary sales and income tax increases are in effect. He knows every dollar Government spends is taken from a hardworking taxpayer. *G. Rick Marshall* serves on the City of Torrance Water Commission, raised money for Muscular Dystrophy, mentored young men and women through Junior Achievement and delivered Christmas presents with Project Angel Tree to children of prisoners. *G. Rick Marshall* will help people retain more of what they earn by keeping taxes low and government restrained so that the Free Enterprise System can help the poor escape poverty, lower consumer prices, and increase our standard of living.

Jerome E. Horton
Democratic

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During these challenging times, it has been an incredible privilege to serve you as Chair of the Board of Equalization (BOE), and to be in position to use my 36 years of BOE, legislative, and financial experience—including 26 years with the Board of Equalization, to protect and serve Californians. I started with the Board as an 18-year-old intern and rapidly progressed to become an Executive Business Tax Law counselor, before joining the California State Legislature. I later served on the California Medical Assistance Commission and California Workforce Investment Board, fighting to improve access to health care, quality jobs, and educational opportunities. Elected to the BOE in 2010, as an architect of the Taxpayer's Bill of Rights, during my tenure we have helped 1.3 million entrepreneurs open, maintain, and grow their businesses and administered upwards of \$138 billion in revenue for state and local services. My anti-criminal business initiatives have helped to combat Human Trafficking, arrest 128 criminals operating illegally, and remove tons of illegal and unhealthy products off our streets. My Campaign Against Poverty has assisted thousands of California taxpayers recapture millions in tax refunds and credits and empowered nonprofits to help fight poverty. I am equally proud of my internship programs designed to provide our young people with training and employment opportunities. To learn about 32 additional Horton initiatives and other resources, please visit <http://boardofequalizationjehorton.com>. In closing, please join California Teachers, Firefighters, Nurses, Police, Taxpayers, and Small Businesses in supporting my re-election.

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Candidate Statements

★ Board of Equalization ★

Continued

District 4

Nader Shahatit
Democratic

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I will be your problem solver by using my tax *experience working in the Board of Equalization* to bring *solutions* to complex tax issues.

Diane L. Harkey
Republican

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The Board of Equalization exists to help taxpayers resolve their differences with government agencies. As your elected representative, I will ensure your voice is heard and that you receive a fair hearing on matters relating to taxes and fees in the State of California. I will work to support individuals, families, and small business owners that need help due to complex and often confusing laws and regulations. Jobs and businesses are still fleeing to other states where it is easier to start up, grow, become profitable, and pay employees well. The Board of Equalization plays an important role in defining how taxes and regulations are implemented and enforced. I'll work with the other four members of the Board to develop a structure that creates a more competitive, user-friendly, and prosperous California that helps businesses thrive and create employment. With a healthy job market we can reduce your tax burden, California's "wall of debt," fund public safety, education, and services government should provide. In the Assembly, I led the fight against the wasteful high-speed rail plan, and developed a common sense approach to balancing the State budget, putting California back on a fiscally sustainable path. On the Board of Equalization, I'll work to get our economy moving and jobs returning to our State. Working together we can return the gold to California, and I would be honored to have your vote.

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Candidate Statements

★ Superintendent of Public Instruction (Nonpartisan Office) ★

- As the state's chief of public schools, provides education policy direction to local school districts, and works with the educational community to improve academic performance.
 - Heads the Department of Education and carries out policies set by the State Board of Education.
 - Serves as an ex-officio member of governing boards of the state's higher education system.
-

Marshall Tuck

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California public schools need major changes to prepare students to compete in the global economy. Our schools rank 45th in the nation in reading and math—but Sacramento politicians are failing to make the crucial changes students need. *The politicians make too many education decisions*, instead of experts. The education bureaucracy wastes too much money and has too much control. I'm an educator, not a politician. *I have a proven record of turning around failing schools*. Leading 17 public schools in some of LA's toughest neighborhoods, we increased graduation rates by 60%. Our innovative "Parent College" became a national model for getting parents more involved. Over the last 5 years, *our schools ranked #1 in academic improvement* among California's large school systems. Previously, I led efforts to establish *9 successful new public charter schools*—which all outperformed local schools. As State Superintendent, I'll be an *independent advocate for parents and students*—not political insiders. I'll work to: (1) Get the politicians out of our schools—so educators & parents can do what's best for kids. (2) Cut the bureaucracy to get more money into classrooms and encourage innovation. (3) Get parents more involved. (4) Support public charter schools. (5) Make sure all students have effective teachers and principals and a college and career ready curriculum. Please read my plan at www.marshalltuck.com. See why parents, teachers, and California's major newspapers—liberal and conservative—endorsed our campaign. We can't accept mediocrity or failure. Vote for the change our students need.

Tom Torlakson

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As the *only California teacher and experienced superintendent* seeking this office, I know bold action is needed to strengthen our schools. My plan calls for *parents, teachers and schools themselves* to make education decisions rather than turning our schools over to Washington politicians or Wall Street speculators. It starts with *increasing parental involvement, expanding career and technical training, making college more affordable and investing in schools* to provide *smaller classes and strong academics*, including *art, music, drama* and the technology students need to graduate *ready for college*. Every student deserves great teachers, which is why we must improve teacher training and support, and remove—fairly—those not up to the job. I helped pass a law making it easier to dismiss teachers for misconduct or poor performance, and I made helping struggling teachers a priority. Because students also deserve safe schools, I helped pass laws to keep gangs, drugs and guns out of our schools. For more information, please read our Blueprint for Great Schools at www.tomtorlakson.com, created with parents, teachers and school officials. After three years on the job, there's still much work to do, but we're seeing real progress—the *highest graduation rates ever* and *rising test scores statewide*. I'm the only candidate supported by classroom teachers, nurses, firefighters, police officers and Sierra Club California, along with Democrats like Senator Dianne Feinstein and Republicans like Richard Riordan. *Let's keep working together to fulfill the promise of public education*, with a high-quality school in *every* neighborhood.

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